

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated near my name below.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**STEERING COLUMN ASSEMBLY WITH VERTICAL CAPSULES**

which is described and claimed in the specification of which:

(check one)

- is attached hereto.  
 was filed on \_\_\_\_\_, as United States Application

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, Attorney Docket No. DP-310238/H&H  
60,408-413, and (if applicable) was amended on  
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I declare that this application is:

- a first filing.  
 a continuation.  
 a continuation-in-part.  
 a divisional.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I do not know and do not believe my invention was known or used by others in the United States of America, or patented or described in a printed publication in any country before my invention thereof.

I do not know and do not believe my invention was patented or described in a printed publication in any country or in public use or on sale in the United States of America, more than one year prior to the date of this application.

I acknowledge my duty to disclose all information known to me which is material to the patentability of my invention in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any foreign country or in the United States of America prior to the date of this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns except as follows:

#### PRIORITY CLAIM(S)

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) of the foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

- no such applications have been filed.
- such applications have been filed as follows:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>APPLICATION NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE OF FILING (month, day, year)</u>	<u>PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 USC 119</u>	
			<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim priority to and all the benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

- no such provisional application has been filed.  
 such provisional application(s) has/have been filed as follows:

APPLICATION <u>NUMBER</u>	DATE OF FILING ( <u>month, day, year</u> )
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I hereby claim priority to and all the benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below. If the above identified application is a continuation-in-part application, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this continuation-in-part application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.63(e).

- no such application has been filed.  
 such application(s) has/have been filed as follows:

APPLICATION <u>NUMBER</u>	DATE OF FILING ( <u>month, day, year</u> )	STATUS ( <u>patented, pending, abandoned</u> )
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## POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith with full power of substitution, association and revocation. (all names listed with corresponding registration numbers)

Stefan V. Chmielewski	Registration No. 39,941
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Patrick M. Griffin	Registration No. 29,716
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Paul L. Marshall	Registration No. 31,178
Robert M. Sigler	Registration No. 26,505
Michael D. Smith	Registration No. 40,181
Thomas N. Twomey	Registration No. 28,916
David P. Wood	Registration No. 45,932

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Raymond E. Scott	22,981	Raymond C. Meiers	51,081
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Samuel J. Hidle	42,619	Randall L. Shoemaker	43,118
Toni L. Harris	44,746	Robert L. Stearns	36,937
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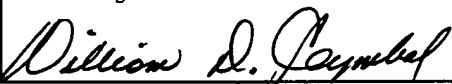
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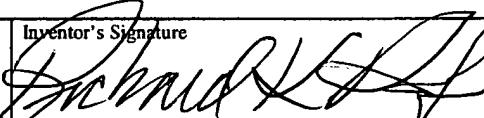
**Robert L. Stearns, Esq.**

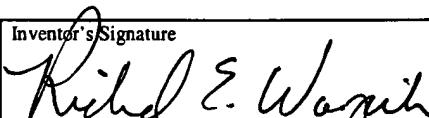
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**DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole Inventor or First Joint Inventor <b>William D. Cymbal</b>	Inventor's Signature 	Date <b>3-4-04</b>
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